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THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of ) **CUSTOMER NO. 27717**  
Harold Mattice et al. )  
Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR )  
CONTROLLING ACCESS TO AREAS ) Examiner: Corbett B. Coburn  
OF GAMING MACHINES )  
Serial No.: 09/824,621 ) Group Art Unit: 3714  
Filing Date: April 2, 2001 ) Confirmation No. 1062  
Seyfarth Shaw Docket No. 403120 )  
Date: June 2, 2004 )

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R371

**RESPONSE**

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action dated May 5, 2004.

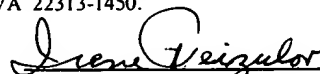
**Restriction Requirement**

The examiner, despite having examined all of the claims on the merits, in which the examiner required restriction to one of the following groups of claims:

- I. Claims 1-10, drawn to apparatus for controlling access to areas in a single gaming machine, classified in class 463, subclass 29.
- II. Claims 11-16, drawn to apparatus for controlling access to areas in a network of gaming machines, classified in class 463, subclass 42.

**Certificate of Mailing**

I hereby certify that, on June 2, 2004, this correspondence is being deposited with the U. S. Postal Service, as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

  
Irene Feizulov